

Appl. No. 09/650,258
Amdt. dated May 27, 2004
Amendment accompanying RCE

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 1-12 were present in the application. Claim 1 is amended herein. Claims 10-12 are canceled. Claims 13 and 14 are added.

This amendment accompanies an RCE filing. A notice of appeal was filed October 27, 2003, and a 5 month petition for extension of time is further made herein to extend the time for filing a brief to May 27, 2004. Applicant has decided to file this RCE and amendment at this time rather than the appeal brief.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Morawiec in view of Miyata et al.

Applicant respectfully traverses. Claim 1 has been amended herein, while new claims 13 and 14 are added. Claims 10-12 are canceled.

In the present invention, a predetermined course is set in the three-dimensional game space. At the time of moving a character along a predetermined course, viewpoints are changed corresponding to the moving of the character, and two-dimensional images corresponding to their plurality of viewpoints are generated. Therefore, even if only one three-dimensional game space is prepared, plurality of two-dimensional images including different contents can be generated. Thus,

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there is no need to prepare plurality of three-dimensional game space including different contents (background data of the character) for generating the two-dimensional images including different contents. This makes it possible to reduce effort necessary to create the data for background.

Elements of the present invention include:

(1) a predetermined course is set in the three-dimensional game space,

(2) a character corresponds to a player moves along a predetermined course,

(3) a plurality of viewpoints are set corresponding to one course,

(4) the viewpoints are changed corresponding to the moving of the player, and

(5) at the time of moving a character, plurality of two-dimensional images corresponding to each viewpoint is generated using the same three-dimensional space.

On the other hand, Morawiec (U.S. 6,010,405) discloses a game apparatus, which has courses and the courses have branches. However, it is not clear whether a character moves along a course in three-dimensional game space, as the present invention. Moreover, plurality of viewpoints is not set corresponding to one course, nor the viewpoints are changed corresponding to the moving of the player. Miyata (U.S. 6,392,644) does not disclose the course set in the three-

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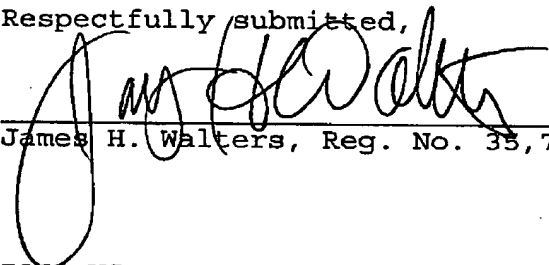
dimensional game space, the moves of the character and relationship between the courses and the plurality of the viewpoints.

Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that even if the combination of the two patents as relied on were made, the features of the present invention would not be produced.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is allowable.

In light of the above noted amendments and remarks, this application is believed in condition for allowance and notice thereof is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is asked to contact applicant's attorney at 503-224-0115 if there are any questions.

Respectfully submitted,


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